



# California Postsecondary Education Commission

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## California Moves to Increase Accountability and Performance in Higher Education

SACRAMENTO, CA — September 25, 2006 — California will move closer to implementing a system for increased accountability in the state's higher education systems when the California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC) meets this Tuesday (September 26, 2006) to review progress towards implementing performance measure accountability reporting.

CPEC is charged by state law with improving the state's higher education systems through planning and coordination. In June of this year, the Commission adopted goals to improve access to higher education, make higher education more affordable, increase the number of students who earn degrees, and sharpen the nexus between higher education and workforce preparation. On Tuesday, the Commission will hear updates on progress toward implementing measures to gauge California's progress in these areas. The Commission's effort reflects a national trend toward increasing the benefits of a postsecondary education by increasing performance-based accountability as part of the policy and fiscal decision-making process.

In addition to reviewing a prototype for benchmarking and measuring progress of students toward graduation, the Commission will hear reports concerning the college-going rates of California's high school students, the growing gap between males and females attending colleges and universities, improvements in teacher retention, and the need for college graduates in the state's workforce. The agenda for the Commission meeting can be found at

<http://www.cpec.ca.gov/Agendas/Agnd0609.asp>

The California Postsecondary Education Commission meeting is scheduled to begin at 8:45 a.m. at 770 L Street, Suite 1160, Sacramento, California. It will be streamed on the Internet and can be heard live at <http://www.cpec.ca.gov>. The public is welcome to attend the Commission meeting or can follow the proceedings and submit questions to the Commission via the Internet at <http://www.cpec.ca.gov>.

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*The California Postsecondary Education Commission advises the Governor and Legislature on higher education policy and fiscal issues. The Commission's primary focus is to ensure that the state's educational resources are used effectively to provide Californians with postsecondary education opportunities.*